

**Indiana Department of Administration
Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Division
E- Newsletter – August 10, 2005**

**THE INDIANA MINORITY AND WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISES LAUNCHES
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

The goal of this electronic communication is to provide timely information about available resources that will assist you in growing your business. Please read our newsletter to find out about new procedures, upcoming contracting opportunities and other important information that will allow you to compete more competitively in the state purchasing process.

IDOA REMOVES BARRIERS TO ENTRY FOR M/WBES

The Indiana Department of Administration has been reviewing the issue of bid bonds. The result is that there will be no more bid bonds in Procurement.

Effective July 28, 2005, the following changes will be incorporated into the RFP Process

- The phrase "Performance Bond" will be replaced with "Evidence of Financial Responsibility"
- Evidence of Responsibility is *not* a requirement for an RFP
- The necessity of requiring Evidence of Financial Responsibility will be reviewed for each proposed solicitation.
- Acceptable forms of Evidence of Financial Responsibility include
 - a. A bond
 - b. Irrevocable Letter of Credit
 - c. Certified Check
 - d. Other Evidence acceptable to the purchasing agency
- Evidence of Financial Responsibility cannot exceed 10% of the contract price

Please note that Bid Bonds will remain in Public Works Solicitations.

BUY INDIANA – BUSINESS DIVERSITY SERIES IS COMING TO A CITY NEAR YOU!

Have you marked your calendar to attend one of our upcoming Business Diversity Series? We are coming to a city near you and you don't want to miss out on valuable information related to the State Procurement process and upcoming Stadium and Convention Construction contracting opportunities. For more information please see <http://www.in.gov/idoa/minority/events.html>

NO CHANGE LETTERS – DON'T JEOPARDIZE YOUR CERTIFICATION

State law requires that a NO CHANGE LETTER and any supporting documentation be submitted annually or a firm will be decertified. To prevent decertification, all notarized forms must be in our office 30 days from the date of receipt. Please contact our office immediately if you have any problems at 317-232-3061.

ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON CURRENT SOLICITATION OPPORTUNITIES?

Competitive businesses review the available state solicitation pages on a regular basis. To view current purchasing opportunities with the Indiana Department of Administration, Procurement and Public Works Division and The Indiana Department of Administration please visit www.buyindiana.in.gov

NEED HELP BUILDING YOUR BUSINESS? – CONSIDER A SCORE MENTOR

SCORE "Counselors to America's Small Business" is the best source of free and confidential small business advice to help you build your business

SCORE counselors can help you accomplish specific objectives, such as writing a business or marketing plan, at no-cost. SCORE volunteer mentors are successful, experienced entrepreneurs and corporate leaders who care about your success as a small business owner. Find a SCORE Counselor today
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